

**METHOD FOR COMPARING AND SELECTING  
PROCESS CONTROL APPARATUS**

**ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE**

A method for comparing and selecting process control apparatus is  
5 disclosed. The method employs software, executed on a stand-alone computer  
device, or accessible through the web, to retrieve data specific to a given  
process control environment, and calculate the performance characteristics of  
multiple types of process control equipment capable of meeting the demands  
of the application. The performance characteristics of each type can be  
10 provided in graphical form, at the same time, to enable a potential consumer to  
readily discern the advantages and disadvantages of each type of process  
control apparatus. In one embodiment, a purchase of the apparatus may then  
be made.